



# VEF FELLOWSHIP

## 2006 ONLINE APPLICATION

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### 1. Personal Information

#### General Information

NAME:

Last: VU

Middle: Thu

First: Thuy

PHOTO:

GENDER:

F

MARITAL STATUS:

Single

DATE OF BIRTH:

12/31/1975

PLACE OF BIRTH:

Province or City: Hanoi

Country: Vietnam

CITIZENSHIP:

Vietnamese

IDENTIFICATION CARD OR PASSPORT:

Number: A0302597A

Date of issue: 07/02/2000

Place of issue: Hanoi - Vietnam

#### Contact Information

EMAIL:

Primary: dr4piggy@hotmail.com

Secondary: abcd@yahoo.com

TELEPHONE:

Primary phone: 84 - 4 - 971 1350

Mobile phone: 84 - (0) 904 753112

HOME ADDRESS:

Street: 34/60 Lane 38 Tran Duy Hung Street

Province or City: Hanoi

Country: Vietnam

Telephone: 84 - 4 - 971 1350

WORK ADDRESS:

Name of employer: SIGI

Street: 327 Hai Ba Trung

Province or City: Hanoi

Country: Vietnam

Telephone: 84 - 4 - 871 1351

PERMANENT MAILING ADDRESS (for important documents from VEF):

Street: 34/60 Lane 38 Tran Duy Hung

<b>Province or City:</b>	Hanoi
<b>Country:</b>	Vietnam
<b>Telephone:</b>	84 - 4 - 971 1350

## 2. Education and Work

### University Entrance Exam

<b>YEAR:</b>	1992
<b>TOTAL SCORE:</b>	26.00

### Attended Universities

**UNDERGRADUATE SCHOOL:**

<b>Name:</b>	Vietnam National University
<b>Location:</b>	Hanoi - Vietnam
<b>Major:</b>	Computer Science
<b>From:</b>	09/1992
<b>To:</b>	05/1996
<b>Original Total GPA:</b>	8.50/10.00
<b>Converted Total GPA:</b>	8.50/10
<b>Rank:</b>	2 / 100

**GRADUATE SCHOOL:**

<b>Name:</b>	University of Auckland
<b>Location:</b>	Auckland - New Zealand
<b>Degree:</b>	Master
<b>Major:</b>	Computer Science
<b>From:</b>	02/2000
<b>To:</b>	02/2002
<b>Original Total GPA:</b>	80.00 / 99.99 (for example: 3.5/4.0)
<b>Converted Total GPA:</b>	8.00 /10.00
<b>Rank:</b>	3 / 200

**OTHER SCHOOL:**

<b>Name:</b>	Univerisity of California - Berkeley
<b>Location:</b>	Berkeley, California - USA
<b>Degree:</b>	Master
<b>Major:</b>	Computer Science
<b>From:</b>	08/2002
<b>To:</b>	06/2004
<b>Original Total GPA:</b>	3.50 / 4.00
<b>Converted Total GPA:</b>	9.00 /10.00
<b>Rank:</b>	6 / 300

### Research Experience (including major projects)

- Implications of Information Technology in Developing Countries: A Case Study

### Conferences and Publications

none

### Academic Honors or Awards

**National or International Awards:** No

Academic Honors or Awards including any National or International Award(s):

none

## Work Experience (including positions and responsibilities)

1996 - 2000 IT Officer - JV Insurance Group, Vietnam

- Responsible for implementation and support of IT projects and regional ERP application;
- act as a key point of contact between Corporate IT and end users on business requirements;
- responsible for the daily running/maintenance of ERP application and other computer systems, including handling of users request for jobs and reports;
- provide end-user training;
- maintain system documentation with established guidelines and procedures;
- maintenance and administration of network servers, firewall, and other hardware;
- routine creation of new email accounts, installation of hardware equipment, software and patches;
- provide technical support to in-house users, resolve virus outbreaks, email and network problems;
- administration and maintenance of IT Inventory;
- planning of office network;
- ensure smooth operation of critical system servers; and
- perform routine data backup and recovery.

2000 - 2002 Intern Teaching Assitant - Mairi Colleage, Auckland, New Zealand

- Advise students on academic and vocational curricula, and on career issues;
- compile, administer, and grade examinations, or assign this work to others;
- compile bibliographies of specialized materials for outside reading assignments;
- Initiate, facilitate, and moderate classroom discussions;
- keep abreast of developments in their field by reading current literature, talking with colleagues, and participating in professional conferences;
- maintain regularly scheduled office hours in order to advise and assist students;
- maintain student attendance records, grades, and other required records;
- evaluate and grade students' class work, laboratory work, assignments, and papers.
- prepare and deliver lectures to students on topics such as programming, data structures, and software design;
- plan, evaluate, and revise curricula, course content, and course materials and methods of instruction;
- prepare course materials such as syllabi, homework assignments, and handouts;
- select and obtain materials and supplies such as textbooks and laboratory equipment; and
- supervise students' laboratory work.

2002 - Chief Information Officer - SIGI Real Estate, Vietnam

- Developing and implementing technology policies as endorsed by SIGI Vietnam;
- establishing long range plans for the SIGI's information systems as well as goals and objectives for the IT Department and related

functions;

- developing and managing procedures for the branches in all areas of information technology (data, voice, video etc.);
- researching, procuring, and overseeing the incorporation of new technologies into the existing computing environment;
- providing advice and support to departments related to the use of technical equipment; software, or related functions in the IT department;
- providing administrative oversight and coordination of data management between various information systems;
- managing technical aspects of information technology as it relates to the branches;
- management of the Information Technology Department, including but not limited to: budgeting, project planning, systems analysis, performance monitoring, staff evaluation, and reporting;
- measuring the performance of the department and all related staff, and taking corrective action when necessary. This includes monitoring the effectiveness of all contracts and licenses in the IT area;
- designing, developing, and the implementation of training to build the skill of staff in the use of relevant software applications; and
- providing administration and technical support to branches and departmental Web sites.

### 3. Standardized Tests

#### TOEFL

<b>TEST DATE:</b>	03/2004
<b>TOTAL SCORE:</b>	650 - Official
<b>SCORE REPORT:</b>	

#### GRE

<b>TEST DATE:</b>	05/2004
<b>TOTAL SCORE:</b>	1300
<b>Verbal Score:</b>	450
<b>Quantitative Score:</b>	750
<b>Analytical/Writing Score:</b>	4.5
<b>SCORE REPORT:</b>	

#### VEF Test

<b>TEST LOCATION:</b>	Ha Noi
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#### VEF Interview

<b>INTERVIEW LOCATION:</b>	Ha Noi
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### 4. Statement of Purpose

2004 was a fruitful and exciting year for me. Our long anticipated project, the Online Auction System, was completed successfully. As a key member of the project, my future with my current employer seems very promising. However, in order to further my future career, I am planning to pursue a Ph.D. in Computer Science.

One of my early challenges at JV Insurance, the company at which I was first employed after graduation, was to use Oracle8i-based technology to build web applications on LINUX. In 1999, ORACLE8i was the latest technology, yet there was no one with experience utilizing this technology nor a single example to refer to in my company. Everyday I wrote programs to try and teach myself how to use this technology. However, my efforts did not pay off immediately, as the Oracle Application Server (OAS) simply did not work and my boss began to lose faith in my ability to use this cutting-edge technology.

Despite these setbacks, my optimism supported me. I searched any book I could find on ORACLE8i, and asked experts and referred to forums on ORACLE via the Internet. At last I found the missing piece of the puzzle in an online forum. It seemed to involve a Java conflict with ORACLE8i and OAS only when installed on the same machine! I reinstalled the OAS and tried different ways to configure the files, and thus resolved the problem at long last.

From this research, experimentation, and investigation, I learned to utilize creative means by which to build my knowledge and resolve problems by looking at them from different angles. I also realized that although new technologies and languages come out each and every month, the core technology is firmly in place and does not vary.

The U.S. is the home of the world's first programmable computer and the birthplace of the information age. This tradition of innovation and scientific excellence fits well my own desires in relation to pursuing a doctoral degree in Computer Science. Currently, my interest lies in the following subject areas:

**Distributed Systems:** In my professional work, I found that many problems existed that we had to address when developing systems on distributed architecture rather than on one machine. Among these challenges were such as problems as: transactional processing support at different levels of an application, communication between local clients and remote servers, and load balance between client nodes and servers. With the growth of Internet, which is the largest, most heterogeneous, and distributed system, these problems scream for solutions.

**Software Engineering:** This is a natural extension of my previous project experience and research. With the increased need for software, I think new ways such as modern, object-oriented design - which allow for the specification of the architecture and control at high levels of abstraction in a modular fashion - are important.

**Database Systems:** This field represents the one in which I was the most engaged. Many questions remain unanswered and require further exploration. How to extract and integrate information from a number of heterogeneous sources? How to define and reuse numerous diverse objects in the real world to construct a practical and maintainable database? These are problems I usually encounter and would like to investigate further.

## 5. Your Preferred U.S. Institutions

### Field of Study

**PREFERRED FIELD:** Computer and Information Sciences

### U.S. Institution Information #1

**UNIVERSITY:** Arizona State University **CODE:** 4165

### LOCATION:

**City:** Tempe

**State:** Arizona

**SCHOOL/COLLEGE:** Ira A. Fulton School of Engineering

**DEPARTMENT:** Computer Science and Engineering

**MAJOR:** Computer Science **CODE:** 0402

**DEGREE:** PhD

### FACULTY MEMBER WITH WHOM YOU WANT TO DO RESEARCH

#### First choice:

**Name:** Stuart Anderson

**Research discipline:** eBusiness trends in developing countries

#### Second choice:

**Name:** Peter Wright

**Research discipline:** IT infrastructure in developing countries

**REASONS FOR CHOOSING THIS UNIVERSITY AND FACULTY MEMBER(S):** - Computer science and engineering at Arizona State University is one of the leading programs.

- The professors have a range of projects in developing countries which I am interested in.

### U.S. Institution Information #2

**UNIVERSITY:** University of California at Los Angeles **CODE:** 4837

### LOCATION:

<b>City:</b>	Los Angeles
<b>State:</b>	California
<b>SCHOOL/COLLEGE:</b>	Henry Samueli School of Engineering and Applied Science
<b>DEPARTMENT:</b>	Computer Science Department
<b>MAJOR:</b>	Computer Science <b>CODE:</b> 0402
<b>DEGREE:</b>	PhD

#### FACULTY MEMBER WITH WHOM YOU WANT TO DO RESEARCH

##### First choice:

<b>Name:</b>	Peter Harris
<b>Research discipline:</b>	Development throught information technology in developing countries

##### Second choice:

<b>Name:</b>	John Parker
<b>Research discipline:</b>	Information technology for development

<b>REASONS FOR CHOOSING THIS UNIVERSITY AND FACULTY MEMBER(S):</b>	The professors have some publications which I find very interesting and which are related to my research interests. I think they would be able to help me with the research topic that I have in mind.
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#### U.S. Institution Information #3

<b>UNIVERSITY:</b>	University of Illinois at Urbana - Champaign <b>CODE:</b> 0402
<b>LOCATION:</b>	
<b>City:</b>	Urbana
<b>State:</b>	Illinois
<b>SCHOOL/COLLEGE:</b>	Engineering
<b>DEPARTMENT:</b>	Department of Computer Science
<b>MAJOR:</b>	Computer Science <b>CODE:</b>
<b>DEGREE:</b>	PhD

#### FACULTY MEMBER WITH WHOM YOU WANT TO DO RESEARCH

##### First choice:

<b>Name:</b>	Patrick McDermott
<b>Research discipline:</b>	Information technology in developing countries

##### Second choice:

<b>Name:</b>	Scott Centofanti
<b>Research discipline:</b>	Information and communication technology in developing countries

<b>REASONS FOR CHOOSING THIS UNIVERSITY AND FACULTY MEMBER(S):</b>	Dr. McDermott is a leader in ICT issues as they relate to the developing world. His many publications and research focus at UIUC relate to my own very closely. I feel that under his tutelage, I will make significant progress in my own area of research.
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## 6. Recommendations

#### Recommender #1

<b>NAME:</b>	Vishwanath Thandi
<b>TITLE:</b>	Dr
<b>PROFESSION:</b>	PhD, Associate Professor, University of Auckland

ADDRESS:	467 Mount Alban, Auckland, New Zealand
TELEPHONE:	63 - 1 - 234 5678
EMAIL:	v.thandi@auc.edu.nz
RELATIONSHIP TO APPLICANT :	Supervisor
LENGTH OF TIME KNOWING THE APPLICANT: 4 Year(s)	

Recommender #2

NAME:	Philip Brown
TITLE:	Mr
PROFESSION:	Chief Executive Officer, JV Insurance Group
ADDRESS:	9870 Auburn Road, Unit 205, Vic 3023, Australia
TELEPHONE:	61 3 9802 4579
EMAIL:	Philip.Brown@bigpond.com
RELATIONSHIP TO APPLICANT :	Supervsior
LENGTH OF TIME KNOWING THE APPLICANT: 7 Year(s)	

Recommender #3

NAME:	Williamson Johns
TITLE:	Mr
PROFESSION:	Head of IT Department , South East Asia
ADDRESS:	7/1600 Baterry Road, Singapore
TELEPHONE:	65 653 6789
EMAIL:	williamson.johns@sigi.com
RELATIONSHIP TO APPLICANT :	Supervisor
LENGTH OF TIME KNOWING THE APPLICANT: 2 Year(s)	

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